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CONFIDENTIAL

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FRONT-CHANNEL MESSAGE ADVISING YOU ON THIS SHOULD BE ON ITS WAY TO YOU SHORTLY. YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN AMAZED TO HEAR THE SHOCK AND DISMAY EXPRESSED AT THE FACT THAT A CABLE WAS SENT OUT WITHOUT BEING FULLY CLEARED. I'M SADDENED TO NOTE THAT WE ARE ALL DIMINISHED WHEN ANY ONE OF US MAKES SUCH AN EGREGIOUS ERROR.

4. (C) FOR HALLFORD, SILVER, MACIAS FROM KEYSER. HARRY WU ETC. ONCE AGAIN, WE SEEM TO HAVE EXPERIENCED A SYSTEM MELTDOWN. WE RECEIVED ZERO CABLES FROM BEIJING TODAY (6/27), AND NONE APPEARED IN OUR SYSTEM DATA BASE. HENCE WE WERE RELIANT UPON THE CONVERSATIONS DIANE HAD WITH ART. PLEASE BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR REPORTING MESSAGE ON KENT'S MEETING THIS AFTERNOON WITH CHINESE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES ZHOU WENZHONG -- HOPEFULLY THAT WILL BE IN HAND PRIOR TO ART'S WED MORNING MEETING WITH THE CONSULAR DEPT. YOU SHOULD ALSO HAVE RECEIVED VIA FAX (FROM JOHN OR DIANE) A LETTER, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE VERSION, THAT MRS WU WISHED HANDED TO HER HUSBAND WHEN -- HOPEFULLY -- CONSULAR ACCESS IS ACCOMPLISHED. NEEDLESS TO SAY, INTEREST IN THIS (AS IN THE CHEN ZIMING SITUATION) REMAINS INTENSE AT VERY HIGH LEVELS. ART, WE UNDERSTAND, WAS AWAKENED BY AN OPS CENTER CALL AIMED AT PREPARING A MEMO (WHICH HAD BEEN SEPARATELY TASKED TO DIANE TO PREPARE) FOR THE SECRETARY. THAT IS ILLUSTRATIVE. JOHN, DIANE AND I MET TODAY WITH FIEDLER,

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MRS WU, MS HOWELL, AND MARTIN WEISS. A USEFUL SESSION, BUT NOTHING OF SPECIAL NEWSWORTHINESS TO REPORT HERE. WE CRANKED INTO KENT'S POINTS SOME OF THEIR OBSERVATIONS.
CHRISTOPHER

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